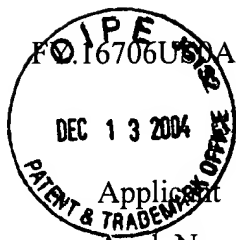


IFW

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Ichikai Kamihira  
Appl. No. : 09/824,462 ✓  
Filed : April 2, 2001  
For : CHARACTERISTIC CONTROL  
DEVICE FOR CONTROL  
SUBJECT  
Examiner : Ronald D Hartman Jr.  
Group Art Unit : 2121

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop: Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

December 9, 2004

(Date)

Katsuhiro Arai, Reg. No. 43,315

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 9, 2004, please reconsider the present application in light of the following amendments and comments.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 7 of this paper. A "Replacement Sheet" for each sheet of drawings being amended can be found in the Appendix.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.